

Besides a sudden storm, there's no trouble in paradise—so far

*Checking in with former Courier editor Kim Eaton whose first journalism job is in Hawaii.*



*Eaton may not be making waves at her new job—but she sure is watching them.*

By **Kim Eaton**  
Staff Writer for the  
*West Hawaii Today*

I've been in Hawaii for almost two months and I don't see myself heading back to the mainland anytime soon. Kailua-Kona is not perfect, by any means. Traffic is horrible, the schools are not the greatest, and the cost of living is a good deal higher than Alabama. However, contrary to popular belief, a gallon of milk is not \$7. It's only \$3.79.

So, why do I like it so much? There's something about Kona that draws you. It could be the friendly community, the beautiful sights or something else entirely. But

**See Hawaii**  
Page 6

## “Go marching in”



The Shelton State Jazz Band honored Mardi Gras at its Terrific Tuesday Concert in the atrium on March 2. Given the suddenly balmy weather in Tuscaloosa lately, it was more than just “the saints” who came marching in. Spring seems to have arrived as well. The Shelton music department offers free concerts every Tuesday during the fall and spring semesters at 1 p.m.

## Johnny Mack Brown—a legend even before he hit the big screen

By **Sarah E. Watkins**  
Staff Writer

As an All-American running back, Johnny Mack Brown drew national attention. As a cowboy movie star, Brown remained in the spotlight. With the sixth annual presentation of the Alabama Stage and Screen Hall of Fame awards on March 13, Brown will once again be recognized—along with comedian-TV star Brett Butler.

“To be frank, he’s turning out to be one of the most pop-



Johnny Mack Brown (C) in this title card for one of the flicks that made him famous.

**See Brown**  
Page 7

## Both Buc squads falter in finals



Photo/Brandon Lovett

*Coach Madonna Thompson and the Lady Bucs huddle together in an attempt to pull out the championship in Muscle Shoals.*

Both the Buccaneers and the Lady Bucs brought their successful seasons to somewhat disappointing ends with losses in the finals of their Alabama Community College Conference tournaments. The men finish their season at 24-9 and the women at 23-8.

On Sunday, March 7, the women could not quite pull out a win in Muscle Shoals against Northwest-Shoals, falling 84-75. The going started out rough for the Bucs who could only muster 26 points in the first half; they trailed, however, by only two points.

According to the head

**See Finals**  
Page 4

## Inside The Courier

- Find out Andre Richardson's (R) and more student opinions on *The Passion of the Christ*...page 2
- Marking the 10th anniversary of *Schindler's List*...page 6
- And much more!





## Shelton to host annual health fair

Shelton will host its annual health fair on Wednesday March 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Wellness Center, Martin Campus.

Admission to the fair is free and open to the public. All faculty, staff, students and friends in the community are invited to attend this showcase of healthy living.

The Wellness Center has been holding the fair since 1990 and is pleased that many sponsors will be returning this year to set up over 30 booths on medicine, fitness, disease prevention, health, nutrition and beauty, along with various community service agencies. Manna Grocery and Smoothie King will provide free beverages and food.

In addition to fitness demonstrations from local fitness clubs, sports clubs, and the Wellness Center, the Bear Bryant Museum will provide a presentation for the football enthusiast.

"The Health Fair is usually held a week before spring break," says Dr. Milady Murphy, director of the Wellness Center. "It gives

people an awareness of good health and safety."

This can be especially pertinent to students as they travel during Spring Break.

The Wellness Center, one of the College's most popular areas, is open year round and offers students of all ages the opportunity to get rid of stress, meet and enjoy new friends, not to mention to get and stay in shape.

The center also offers a variety of health and physical education classes through noncredit and credit programs including a certificate program for students who want to become exercise instructors and personal trainers.

As part of the curriculum, students learn the basics of nutrition for disease prevention and exercise physiology.

As Americans place more and more emphasis on health and exercise, the job opportunities will continue to grow.

For more information on the Health Fair on the Wellness Center, please contact Dr. Milady Murphy at 205/391-2994.

## Off the Shelf...

By Glen Johnson

We are a nation of dreamers. And for most of us, the biggest part of the American Dream is buying a house. So who among us dreams on a bigger scale than realtors?

Meet Joe Stratford, the lead character in Jane Smiley's latest book *Good Faith*. You'll like him. Everyone likes good ole Joe practically from the moment they meet him. Joe's a realtor of the '80s, that decade best remembered as a real roller coaster for the real estate business. Joe's a nice guy but his dreams aren't very grandiose. He dreams of finding peace and quiet after the "excitement" of his recent and not especially smooth divorce from Sherry.

They became separated literally during a riot in Barcelona while vacationing in the '70s. Good ole Joe spent three hours searching for her and then wearily returned to their hotel. Joe stopped at the hotel bar for a short pick-me-up and that's the precise moment Sherry returned from the riot. For the next seven years she took it out of his hide on a regular basis. Every flog-

ging ended with the same litany: "When there was all that shooting in Barcelona and people were being killed, you were in the hotel bar ordering a stinger! Why weren't you out looking for me? That's something I'll never understand!"

Sherry used the settlement to open L'Auberge Normande.

Joe wants a little peace and quiet but because he's such a decent chap and such a swell fella, soft-hearted ole Joe has teamed up with Felicity Ormquist. Felicity is the kid sister (grown up now and boringly married) of Joe's first sweetheart, Sally, who died at 17. Felicity has a dream too. It's to escape from her achingly dull domestic life with husband Frank. She hopes Joe is her ticket out.

And over it all and through it all strides Gordon Baldwin, developer and Colossus to the American Dream. Gordon is the payoff for this story. Big,



loud, garish, honking his way from one development scheme to another and then on to the next one. For Gordon, it's all about the sizzle not the steak. He's also Felicity's father.

Simultaneously appalling and appealing, Gordon rises from the page and

takes control of our imagination to an extent that when he describes his newest project: a development to take care of the empty-nesters that are emerging from two of his previous developments (those two aimed at newly-marrieds followed by middle-aged family raisers); the reader is caught up in his spiraling enthusiasm to the degree that we join Gordon in becoming euphoric at the idea that we breathe the same air and walk the same earth with the wonderful people who want to buy into this new neighborhood and the men like Gordon who have built it for them.

Ahhh, chicken soup for the dark little raisin of our soul.

## How passionate are you about *The Passion*?

By Drew Dockery  
Staff Writer

As *The Passion of the Christ* opens in theaters all across the country, it is surrounded by controversy, and at the same time, excitement like few movies before it have ever seen.

Many people in the media believe the movie is extremely violent, possibly too violent. Also, the question has been asked is this movie and its director Mel Gibson anti-Semitic?

What's the feeling around Shelton State? I decided to go to the students and get their view on the movie. I conducted an interview with several students, asking these three questions:

•What was your overall view of the movie *The Passion of the Christ*?

•How did you feel about the violence in the movie?

•How did you feel after seeing the movie?

Brandon Ambrose said,

"The movie was very harsh, it actually told the true story. I believe the movie brought more out than the church. I did not feel that the movie was too violent, it showed the truth; it showed what really happened. After seeing the movie I felt changed. I felt different; it makes you think more about how you live. It



Photos/Drew Dockery

Brandon Ambrose

makes you want to be a better Christian."

Andrew Snyder said, "It's a very good movie, it told the story clear. A few parts were confusing but for the most part it told the story very clearly. I

don't feel the movie was too violent; it needed to be seen the way it really was. After the movie ended it was complete silence, it really makes you think about what the Lord has done."

Jheovanny Gomez said, "I liked the movie a lot; I went to see it because I'm Catholic. It didn't really touch me the way it has a lot of people because it's stuff I already knew and seen before. But it was a very

good movie and has the potential to be a life-changing movie. I don't think it was too violent. This is, really what happened; it was real. I've seen movies like this before in Colombia where I'm from, so it didn't touch me like it did so many others."

Daniel Appleby said, "I think it was a really good movie. I believe it was fairly accurate. Some of the things in the movie were not in the

Bible, but overall, it was very accurate. As for the violence I really couldn't stand the violence. I definitely don't think kids should see the movie. But to really get the picture across of what Jesus did, I think the violence had to be shown. As I was leaving the theater I felt sad, because it

See *Passion*  
Page 3

### Shelton State Courier

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**Kim West**  
and  
**the MCM 102 class**  
Publisher  
**Dr. Jim Kenny**  
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**Amy P. Oswalt**

The *Shelton State Courier* is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic

freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.



# Lee selected as Shelton's first Howard Hughes intern

Michael Lee, a sophomore at Shelton State Community College has been named as one of 24 students to participate in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Research Experience.

The program, designed for students majoring in biology, microbiology or chemistry, is a joint effort of The University of Alabama and Stillman College.

The program is funded by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and offers students a spring 2004 seminar and a year-long program of independent research, which includes a visiting scientist speakers series, a summer research symposium and travel to present their research at professional meetings.

Dr. Karen Rose, of the biology department at Shelton

and one of the three professors facilitating the 'Language of Science' program said, "Michael is the first Howard Hughes Intern from Shelton State and we are all delighted with his selection and participation in this challenging program."

The program begins with a seminar called 'Language of Science,' which meets on Fridays alternating between the UA and Stillman campuses. During a 10-week summer internship, interns conduct research projects under the guidance of faculty mentors.

Michael Lee has been teamed with Kevin Redding, assistant professor of chemistry at UA.

Their research will be in the areas of "re-directing biological electron transfer" and "disassembly and degradation

of membrane proteins."

Hughes Undergraduate Research Interns, who may apply for a second year of internship, receive a stipend for their summer participation and funding toward living expenses.

"All of us at Shelton State are thrilled with Michael's selection to participate in this unique program," said Shelton State President Rick Rogers. "We value these opportunities that showcase the caliber of students that choose to attend Shelton State."

Shelton State students interested in applying for future sessions of the program should contact Dr. Karen Rose at 205-391-2209 or by email at [krrose@sheltonstate.edu](mailto:krrose@sheltonstate.edu).

Additional information is also available on the web at [www.as.ua.edu/biology/hhmi](http://www.as.ua.edu/biology/hhmi).

## Passion From Page 2

was our sins that put him on the cross; we're the ones who crucified Jesus."

Robyn Mackey said, "It was a great movie - absolutely wonderful, but I never want to see it again because it was so emotional. I cried. It probably wasn't violent enough, but at the same time it was too violent to be put into film. After the movie ended, I felt empty, a very empty sad feeling."

Luke Skinner said, "It is an extremely intense movie, absolutely worth seeing. I felt Mel Gibson kept the violence just right for historical accuracy. He toned the violence down some, but still put enough violence into it to get the picture. When I walked out of the theater I felt beaten down and afflicted but also very thankful for what my Savior had done."

Andre Richardson said, "Personally it was a motivational movie. It showed what God had done for us. It made me want to live my life for him because of what he had done for me. It really made me want to dig deeper into my relationship with Jesus. I didn't feel like it was too violent; it was straight from scripture.

After seeing the movie it showed me how much God loved me. I cried after seeing what Jesus had done; it changed me and strengthened my relationship with the Lord."

Ashley Hester said, "It was an awesome movie. I felt like finally someone had made a movie about the Lord that didn't mock him. I think the violence had to be in the movie to show what Jesus

went through to save us. After seeing the movie, it opened up my eyes to how much Jesus loves us. It made me feel unworthy of what Jesus did for me."

Lesley Ware said, "I thought the movie was really good. It left me speechless; I was just like, 'wow.' I thought Jesus was lashed more in the movie than he was in the Bible. After seeing the movie I was really depressed. I felt like I wanted to give everything up because I didn't feel worthy."

Emily Edmondson said, "It was a really good movie; it was very truthful. I don't think it was violent enough; I think it was even worse than that. After seeing the movie it really humbled me. It made me feel special that someone would do that for me."



Ashley Hester

## Feed a body—feed a mind

According to a US Dept. of Agriculture report in March 2000, eight million Americans go to bed—and wake up—hungry. In our supposedly prosperous nation, one in ten households do not have enough food to meet their daily basic needs.

Illiteracy is another critical social problem plaguing America. Research has shown a strong correlation between illiteracy and poverty, making it probable that people whose bodies are starved for food are also starved for knowledge.

PROJECT GRADUATION is one solution to these social issues of hunger and illiteracy. Books of all types and non-perishable food items will be collected during college commencement ceremonies all over the country.

On May 6, all who attend commencement at Shelton State Community College are encouraged to join in.

Members of Phi Theta Kappa, the international scholastic honorary for two-year colleges, will be on hand at graduation to receive your contributions.

PTK members will take the donations to residents at Hannah Home, a local facility for battered and abused women and their children. Last year, Shelton State's Phi Theta Kappa collected 296 canned food items and 304 books; their goal is to triple those numbers.

For more information about PROJECT GRADUATION, please

visit the PTK website at [PTK.org](http://PTK.org) or contact Steve Johnson, PTK president (462-0737) or Nora Lee, PTK Advisor (391-2367).



Photo/Brandon Lovett

Responding to community need, Shelton hosted an emergency blood drive on Feb. 23.



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## Finals From Page 1



Photos/Brandon Lovett

Chantarius Stone (R) goes up for the tip in the final game of the ACCC championship.

Buc coach, Madonna Thompson, what ultimately led to the demise of the season was a combination of hot shooting by their opponent and her team's own poor fouls shooting. "They came out and hit a period where I hon-

estly don't think they missed a shot," Thompson said. "They shot lights out in the second half and their defense was just all over us."

But the real *coup-de-gras* for the team was self-inflicted. The Lady Bucs ended up shooting only 15 for 29 from the charity stripe.

"You can't win a championship that way," the coach lamented.

"You don't deserve it if you miss free throws like that. That's just horrible for a college basketball team to shoot that poorly."

Lady Buc Nicole Thomas certainly tried her mightiest, tallying a double-double with 15 points and 12 rebounds. Kristin Payne, Chantarius Stone and Jaquayla King also scored in double figures.

The men's

basketball team finished a 24-9 season as the Region XXII runners-up.

After two disappointing losses at the end of the regular season, the Bucs rebounded to advance to the finals of the ACCC Division I Tournament.

Entering as the #3 seed, they defeated Wallace-Hanceville by a score of 93-67 in the first round. That same day Bishop State defeated the #2 seed, Lawson State, setting up a semi-final game between



Kristin Payne (R) goes up high for a jump shot in the finals against Northwest-Shoals in Muscle Shoals.

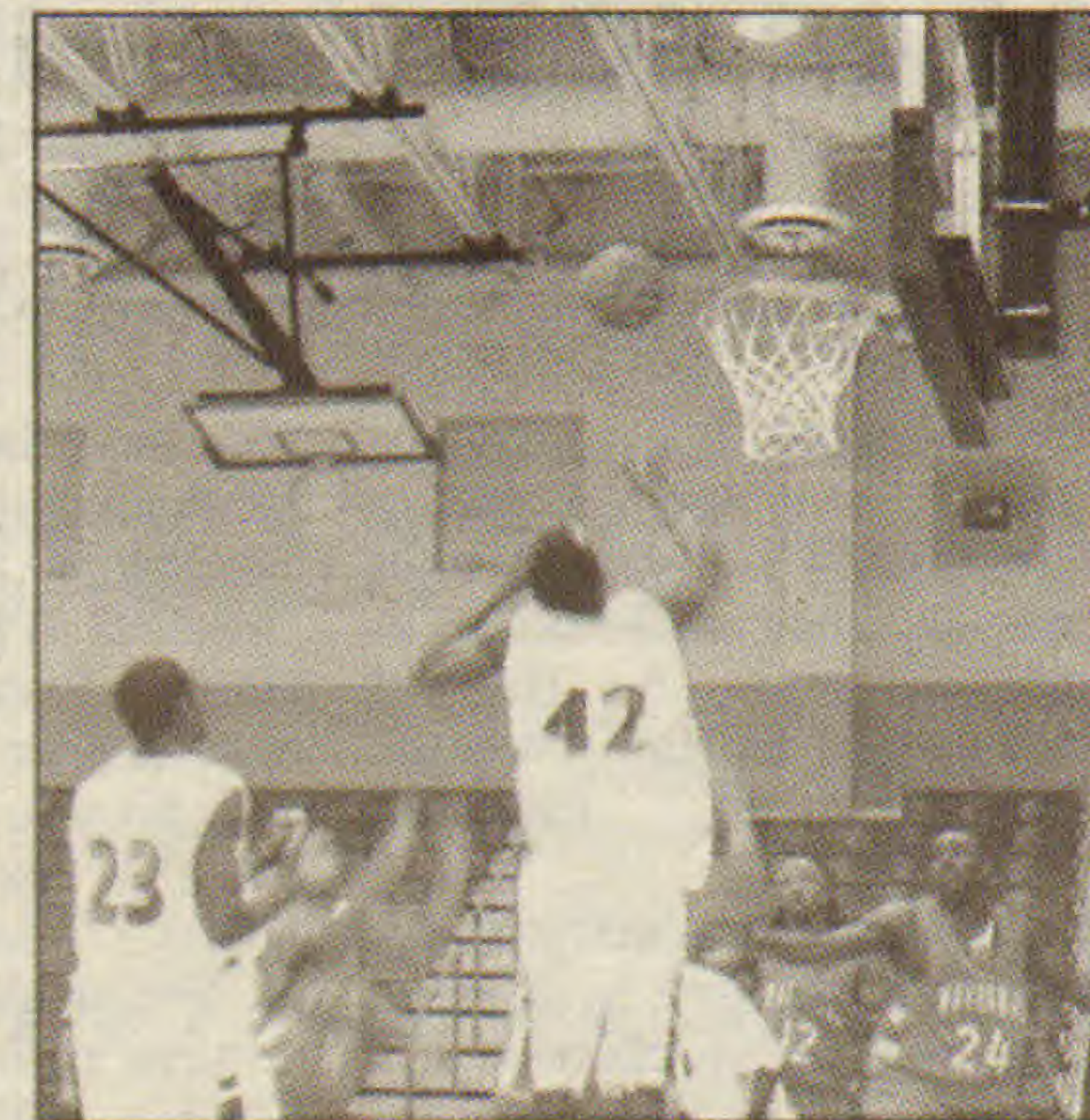
Shelton and Bishop. Shelton won 79-74.

Waiting for the Bucs on the other side of the bracket were the #1 seeded Enterprise-Ozark Boll-Weevils. Enterprise entered the tournament with only one conference loss; however, that one loss was to Shelton State.

The Bucs led most of the way, but two clutch three-pointers with under a minute-and-a-half remaining put Enterprise in the lead.

The Bucs were forced to foul and Enterprise answered at the free-throw line to pull out the win, 64-56.

Coach Barry Mohun had this to say, "Certainly we are disappointed, but our guys gave great effort. We know that there are many teams that

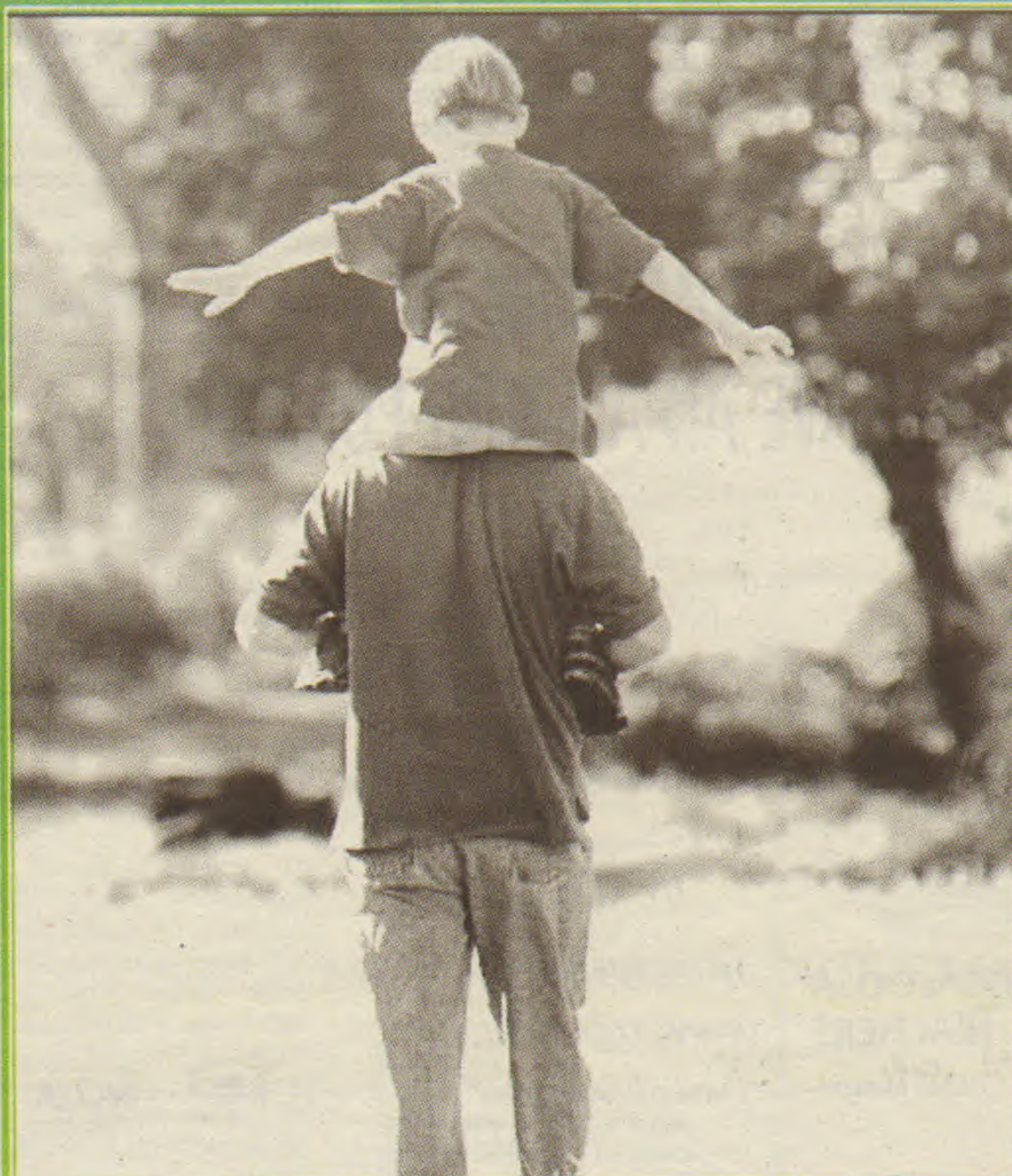


Two of the Bucs' most accomplished players down the stretch of the season were Joseph "Jo-Jo" Martin (L) and Patrick Culver.

Martin has already signed with Alabama State, and Culver, too, should have a hoop future at a four-year college.

would love to have gotten to the finals. Now we regroup, and get ready to reclaim our title next year."

Individual awards given out by the ACCC Commissioner, Al Cox, included the naming of Patrick Culver and Joseph Martin to the All-Region Team. Tavaris Swann joined Culver and Martin on the All-Tournament Team.



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## Sophomore Night at the Umphrey

Shelton took out a few minutes on the evening of Feb. 25 to recognize the hard working sophomores whose athletic prowess entertained audiences all season.



Photos/Brandon Lovett

Lady Buc sophomores are (L-R) Marquitta Westbrooks, Laura Rombokas, Nicole Thomas, Marie Heacox, Leanne Grayson, Emily Nalls and Chantrius Stone.



Sophomore men are (L-R) Kareem Ward, Patrick Culver, Matt Brown, Tavaris Swann, Joseph Martin, Albert Lewis and Frank Moore.



Among the sophomore cheerleaders are (L-R) Kelly Hill, Johnna Carlyle, Ashley Boothe and Joy Brown.

## Bucs struggling

By Shane Cook  
Staff Writer

With high expectations and a national rank of 8th in the nation, the Shelton State Men's baseball team started their quest for a state championship.

Their season started with back to back trips to Florida. While in Florida they went from 8th nationally to out of the top 25. The two trips to

Florida showcased some of the great junior college baseball teams in the nation. It also showed the Bucs that they had a ways to go.

After two trips to Florida the Bucs have an overall record of 3-12. Rusty Hall, a sophomore out fielder, said, when asked about the struggles of their team "Team work is not there yet." While David Hyde said, "Everything will come around."

## Batter Up! Lady Bucs begin softball season

By Amanda Crowe  
Staff Writer

The Lady Bucs played their softball season opener on Feb. 18 against Alabama Southern in Monroeville—about three weeks late due to rain.

The two teams were scoreless in the first few innings of game one, but finished with a score of 4-2.

However, losing by two runs didn't put them under the weather—the second game was a blow-out!

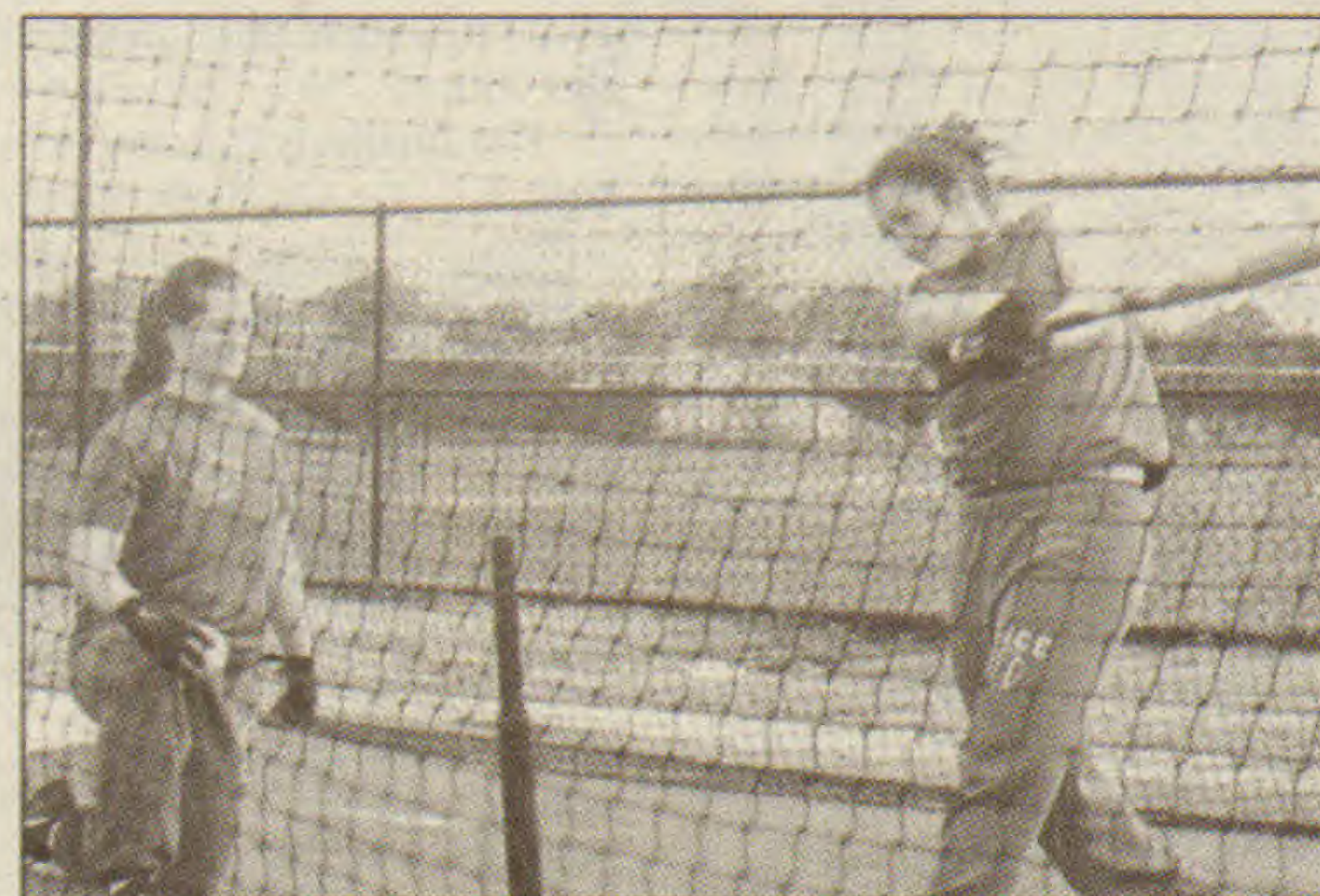
With the run rule in effect (the run rule being that when a team is down by eight runs after five innings, the game will be called), the Bucs went home with a score of 9-1.

Softball Coach Melissa Daniels felt that they had their "first-game jitters."

"The girls didn't execute with runners in scoring position, and I think that came from waiting for someone else to step up instead of wanting to be the one player to come through in a crucial situation," said Daniels.

The next weekend, the Lady Bucs played in Meridian, Miss., facing a five-game round robin tournament. At this tournament, the girls won two of the games.

On Feb. 27, the Lady Bucs tasted victory in the first game of the tournament defeating



Photo/Brandon Lovett

Tracy Green (L) and Amanda Crowe (R) practice their swings in the batting cages at Shelton. The season opened with four losses out of seven games.

Okaloosa-Walton Community College out of Florida with a score of 1-0.

The first seven innings were scoreless, but in the bottom of the eighth, sophomore Alicia Fields scored on a pass ball to win the game.

"A victory like that proves that the Lady Bucs have what it takes to have a successful year," said Fields. "Compared to the fall, our team has come together drastically. We practice as a team, and now we must play as a team."

The Bucs played Gadsden State Community College on Feb. 28 in the second game of

the tournament ending with a score of 3-1. Defensively, the girls played well. However, the execution at the plate could have been better.

The three defeats came from Blinn College out of Texas, Wallace-Hanceville (a conference team that the Lady Bucs may face in the state tournament), and Central Alabama.

The team will hit the field next week to correct the errors that were made. They hope that the first seven games will be a learning experience and that they will progress throughout the year.

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## Hawaii From Page 1

from the moment I got off the plane, I felt like I was home (pardon the cliché).

I survived my first tropical storm this weekend. We had winds of at least 50 mph, and the coast road was completely flooded. Of course, there were the usual trees uprooted, power lines down, roads flooding, but we also had several boats grounded and one plane on its way to Honolulu had to make an emergency landing in Kona because it was struck by lightning. All in all, it was a thrilling experience, although I did believe my roof was going to be ripped off several times during the night, but we never lost power - a blessing since we realized we had no candles or flashlights!

I also survived my first earthquake a few weeks ago. It woke me from a dead sleep, and my first thought was someone had missed the garage and had run into the house. It was relatively small (only about 4.3 on the scale, I believe), but it was something new for me. Of course, Angel slept through both instances (I have no idea how she did it).

Several new things that I've done ... I am currently taking a Latin dance class, so I'm learning the salsa (which is so much fun). And my roommate and I are going to get certified in scuba diving probably in April or May, when the water gets a little warmer. We still go swimming just about every weekend, hang out and explore the island. There is so much to see and do. I don't know if I'll ever get to it all.

The food here is very interesting. I became brave (after several glasses of wine) one evening out and tried raw fish, as well as fresh ginger. I've also fallen in love with this incredible drink. It's coconut milk and cinnamon mixed together and it's just about the best thing I've ever had.

The job is still great. The paper is going through many changes right now, including a new design program as well as changing formats. But it's exciting to be a part of that change. My boss is positively wonderful and I don't believe I'll find another one like him (other than Dr. Kenny). He

actually sits out in the newsroom with the rest of us and works. He doesn't hole up in his office. He is very approachable and encourages new ideas and creativity. He likes reporters to come up with their own ideas, or he'll give me a topic and tell me to run with it.

I've finally gotten my

beat. I

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times and the Ironman

Triathlon issues. I've gotten to

meet many interesting people

and I've learned a great deal

about Hawaiian culture in the

two short months I've been

here.

I have also learned a lot

about myself since I've been

here and I have several pieces

of advice for any student, par-

ticularly those interested in

journalism.

1. Don't be afraid to try

for that dream job - you never

know what you can get

unless you apply.

2. It's almost impossible

for a reporter to get along

with a photographer, so don't

sweat over it if it doesn't hap-

pen.

3. Don't be afraid to try

new things. And be creative.

4. Always remember it is

your story - don't ever let

anyone tell you how to write

it, whether it's the person

you're interviewing or the

photographer or anyone else.

5. Pay attention in class.

I know some of those classes

can become quite boring and

tedious, and you think you'll

never need to know any of

the stuff you're learning, but

believe me, some day you

will. Plus, those professors

actually do know what they're

talking about.

6. Memorize your AP

style book!

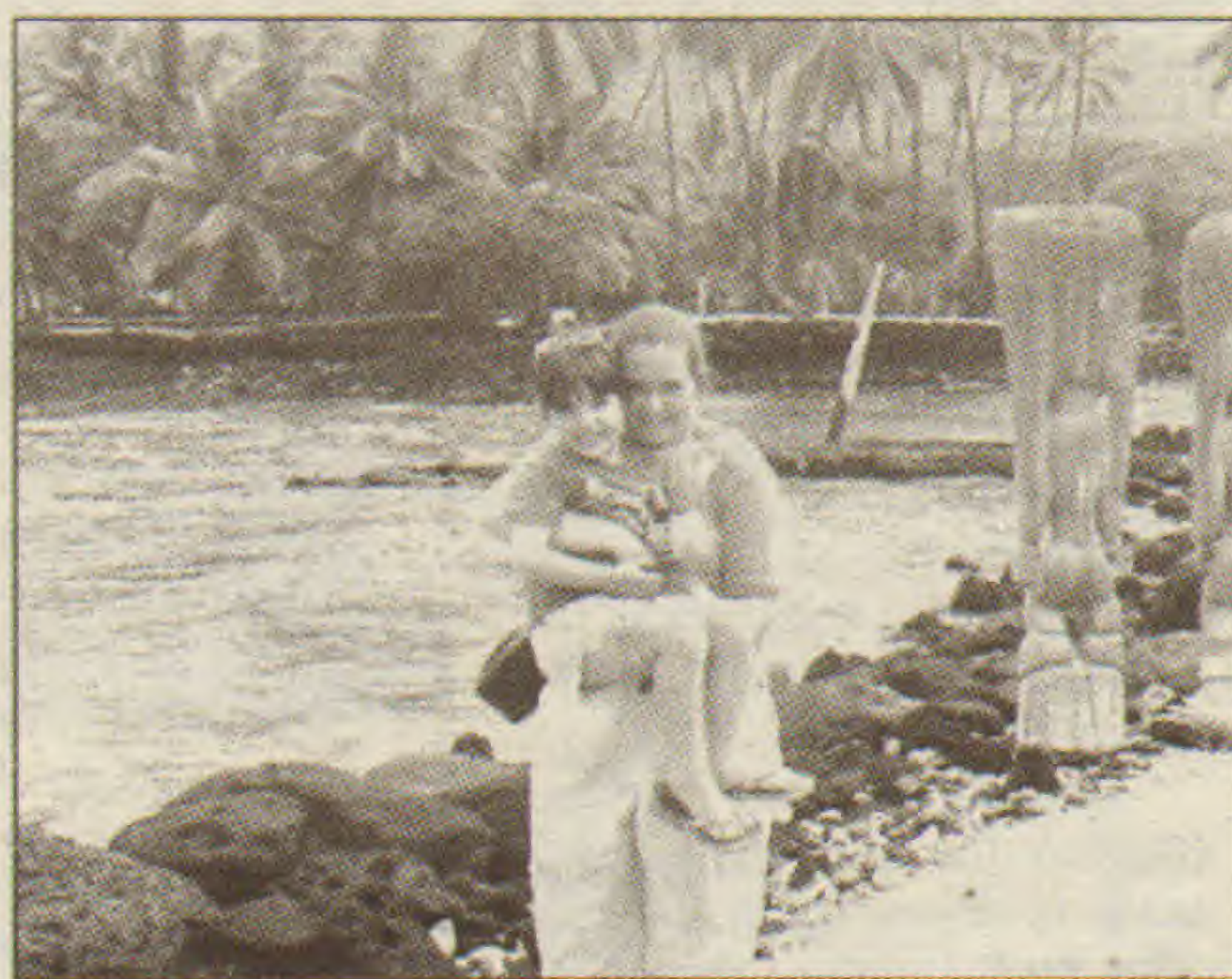
7. Don't go into this field

unless you have a pas-

sion for writing. The hours

completely suck, the pay is generally not that great and it could become one of the most stressful things in your life. But if you have a passion for reporting the news and it's something you love, then you can handle it. If you don't, then it will show in your writing and you'll be miserable.

8. My biggest piece of



Kim Eaton enjoys another beautiful day in Hawaii with her six-year-old daughter Angel.

advice is don't go metro. Everyone wants that big glamorous job right out of college, but your best bet would be getting a job with a smaller paper for a few years. That way, you get the experience larger papers want and stand more of a chance getting a better salary. Also, smaller papers can usually be more flexible and you won't be stuck writing obits every day. You might actually get to cover real news!

That is pretty much it for me ... I've got interviews all day tomorrow and I'm working late for the next three nights, so I've got to catch up on some sleep. I'll talk to you soon!

Aloha,  
Kim

# Let's not forget Schindler—nor the people on his list

*Universal Studios Home Video launches a worldwide tribute to Steven Spielberg's Schindler's List, including new DVDs and a reality-based program for high school students*

By Dr. Jim Kenny  
Publisher

Perhaps the most affecting moment in the new DVD *Voices from the List* was one of the briefest.

One of the "Shoah" survivors, an old man of obvious toughness and pride, looks into the camera: "Sometimes, even today, someone will ask me 'Are you a Jew?,' and I'll say 'No. No.'" His chin trembles slightly, his eyes reach out across the millennia of persecution.

He is a survivor of the Holocaust—the killing of 6-million Jews by the Nazis during World War II—but his frank admission that even today he can be made uncomfortable over his ethnic (or religious) identity, speaks volumes about the lasting effects of this monstrous historical fact.

What do young people today know about the annihilation of the Jews in the 1940's?

Whatever that answer, if Steven Spielberg—and Universal Studios have their way it will be more in the future. To mark the 10th anniversary of the release of *Schindler's List*, a bucketful of material is being released. The

material includes:

•Academy award winning (best movie and director) *Schindler's List* on DVD for the first time

•Bonus DVD materials, including *Voices from the List*, a 77-minute documentary, produced by the survivors of the Shoah Foundation.

•*The Shoah Foundation Story with Steven Spielberg*, a behind-the-scenes look at the Shoah Foundation

•A Collector's Gift Set, which also includes a collectible Plexiglas case enclosing *Schindler's List: Images of the Steven Spielberg Film*, with a foreword from Spielberg, and the John Williams haunting soundtrack, featuring the violinist Itzhak Perlman

•*Giving Voice*, a reality based educational program for high-schoolers that showcases kids' take on issues of bias and intolerance. This program is now available through Films for the Humanities & Sciences at [www.films.com](http://www.films.com) or by contacting the Shoah Foundation at [www.vhf.org/givingvoice](http://www.vhf.org/givingvoice).

*Schindler's List* is a movie that will, and should, shake people up. These materials on its 10th anniversary help remind us that it's good to be shaken-up once in a while.



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## Former Shelton student selected as Miss Tuscaloosa

Allison Wilkes, a former student at Shelton State Community College, was selected as "Miss Tuscaloosa" in the local pageant held at the Bama Theatre on Saturday, Jan. 24.

From a field of nine contestants, Wilkes was chosen to represent the community in the state-wide contest to be held at Samford University in Birmingham June 9-12. The winner in that competition will go on to represent Alabama in the "Miss America" pageant in Atlantic City in the fall.

Wilkes performed the song "Man of La Mancha" during the talent portion of the contest. Her community service platform was "Arts in Education in K-12." She hopes to perform the same

musical number in the state competition but because pageant rules prohibit two contestants performing the same selection, she won't know for a few months if her "bid" is accepted.

Allison is currently a junior at the University of Alabama with a double major in theatre and public relations. "I guess I'm actually in year four of a five year plan," she said laughingly. "College has really been more a voyage of discovery for me rather than a four-year, get a degree mission."

Wilkes, who was active in both the music and theatre departments at Shelton State, was a member of the "Shelton Singers" and the "Bach to Rock" ensemble. In the theatre department she starred in



Allison Wilkes

*The Fantasticks* and in *State Fair* for Theatre Tuscaloosa.

In addition to her new title as "Miss Tuscaloosa," Wilkes also placed second in the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition in February.

## Brown From Page 1

ular one's we've chosen," said Paul Looney, retired director of Theatre Tuscaloosa about Brown. "I knew him first for his cowboy movies more than his football exploits," Looney said.

Born on Sept. 1, 1904 in Dothan, Brown seemed, early on, destined for greatness. He attended the University of Alabama beginning in 1922 where he began his college football career.

Brown became the All-American Alabama running back hero of the famous 1926 Rose Bowl game against the Washington Huskies, by scoring two out of the three touchdowns for the winning side.

After he graduated, Brown tried to coach for a little while, and then decided to go to Hollywood in 1927 and act in silent films. By all accounts, Brown was well-liked—and many, especially women, thought he was very good looking.

Brown became a very successful leading man in many films after signing with the first studio to concentrate on quality, MGM. However, Brown never really found his love for acting until he played in King Vidor's *Billy the Kid* in 1930.

After that, he seemed to always be typecast as a macho

cowboy.

"He became very, very popular as a cowboy because he was good at riding horses and shooting pistols," said Looney. "He became an idol for young boys and girls in the 40's and 50's," Looney said. "He helped to establish the idea of a cowboy hero."

Looney explained that Brown is of great significance because he was not only a hero for Alabama, but a wonderful actor, role model, and hero to many children who grew up watching him.

Brown also had a good family life. He married his college sweetheart, Cornelia Foster, who was the daughter of a local judge, and bought a beautiful home equipped with a swimming pool and tennis court.

Even though Brown was widely remembered for his role in *Billy the Kid*, he starred in many films. The following are some of his star role films Brown held: *The Bounty Killer*, *Raiders of the Border*, *The Texas Kid*, *Ride 'Em Cowboy*, *Pony Post*, *Hell Town*, *Lawless Land*, *Wild West Days*, *Undercover Man*, and *Belle of the Nineties*.

Johnny Mack Brown is a name very well known to this day, even though he passed away nearly 30 years ago on Nov. 14, 1974. Just before his death, Brown said two of his proudest accomplishments were being enshrined in both the Hollywood Boulevard



Johnny Mack Brown during his football days at UA.

Walk of fame and into the College Football Hall of Fame. It seems reasonable to think Brown would be gratified to be noted for his acting just a few miles away from where he made his mark as an athlete.

Harold Watkins, a former football player for the U of A, and a current employee of Charter Media said, "He was one of the many outstanding young men on that 1926 team that brought recognition to not only Alabama football, the University of Alabama, and the state of Alabama, but the entire South," Watkins said. "Also, his after-college achievements in the movies help pave the way for other Southerners."

It's not too late to be a part of Johnny Mack Brown's latest HoF induction. Tickets for the March 13 event may be purchased by calling the Theatre Tuscaloosa box office at 391-2277.

## Alabama Stage and Screen Hall of Fame to host screenings of works from 2004 honorees

In preparation for the sixth annual presentation of the Alabama Stage and Screen Hall of Fame awards which is scheduled for Saturday, March 13, 2004, films starring this year's honorees will be screened in the Alabama Power Recital Hall located on the campus of Shelton State Community College on Monday, March 8, Wednesday March 10, and Friday March 12 at 1 and 3 p.m. The screenings are free and open to the public. Film titles will be released at a later date.

"Since 1999, Theatre Tuscaloosa, in partnership with Shelton State Community College, has hosted the Stage and Screen Hall of Fame," said Paul K. Looney, executive director of the event. "I'm proud to announce that our honorees for 2004 are the famous cowboy movie star Johnny Mack Brown and comedienne Brett Butler."

Johnny Mack Brown first came to national attention as an All-American running back at the University of Alabama where he scored two of the three touchdowns in a winning effort against the favored Washington Huskies in the famous 1926 Rose Bowl game. After graduation, he tried his hand at coaching for a short time but went to Hollywood and began doing bit parts around 1927 in silent films.

Beginning in 1939 and over the next decade, Brown made nearly 75 western films with two actors - Fuzzy Knight and Raymond Hatton. These films were predictable and popular; each one made money. He appeared in a handful of westerns in the 1950s and was a guest star on several television programs. His last film was *Apache Uprising* in 1966.

In all, Brown made more than 170 films during his career in addition to TV guest

appearances. Prior to his death on November 14, 1974, he said two of his proudest accomplishments were his star on the Hollywood Boulevard Walk of Fame and his induction into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Born in Montgomery, Alabama on January 30, 1958, comedienne, writer and actress Brett Butler wrote in her 1996 autobiography, "I would have been born in Tuskegee, where we lived, had the town not been too small to accommodate a hospital."

Her incisive, anti-male insults, delivered in a Southern drawl, gave her a prominent reputation and within a few years she had started to appear in guest roles on TV and by 1987 as a writer on Dolly Parton's series.

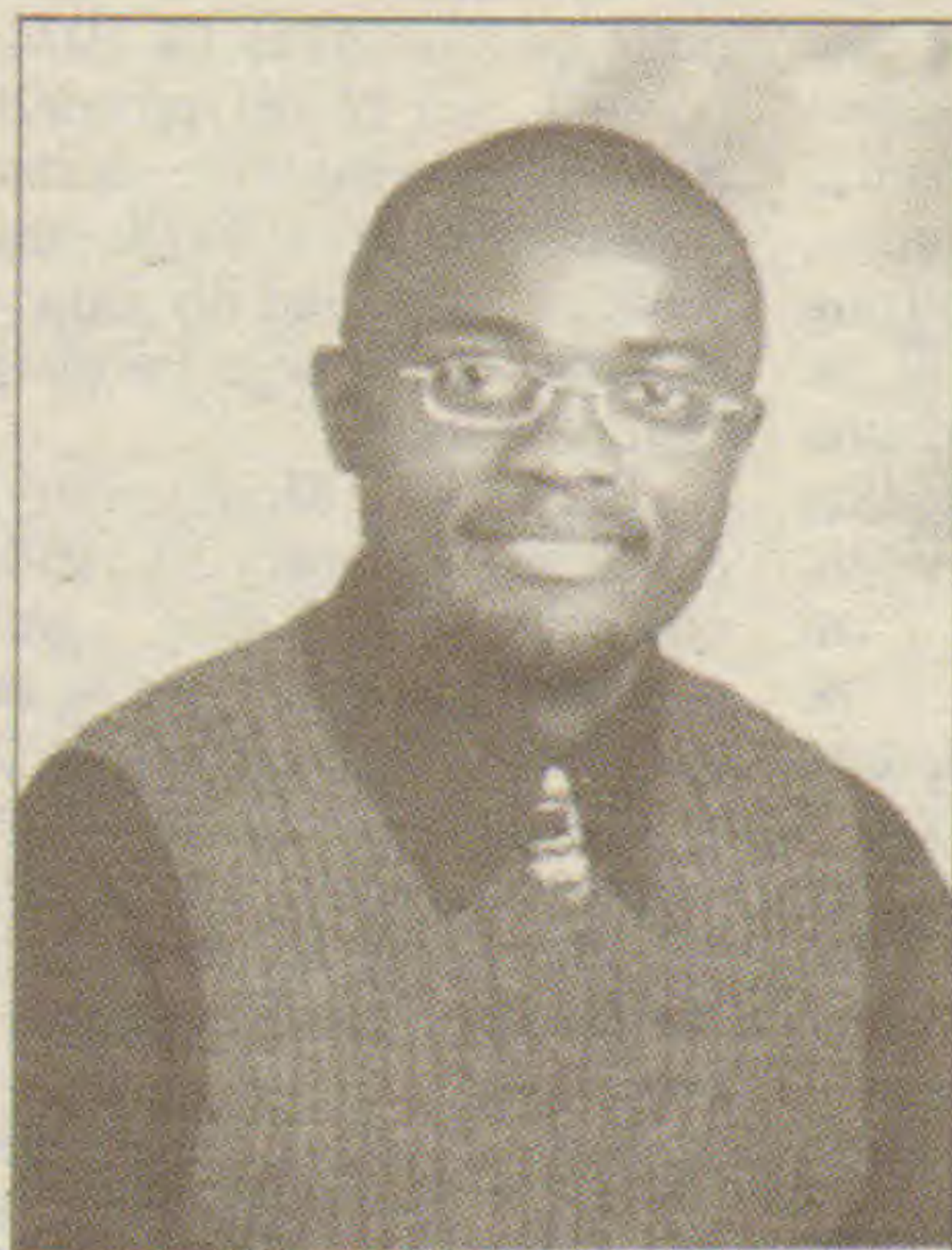
By September 1993 she was starring in her own comedy series, *Grace Under Fire*. The series centered on Butler (who also served as one of the executive producers) in the title role as a recently divorced mother as she tries to rebuild her life.

The 2004 Alabama Stage and Screen Hall of Fame Gala and Induction ceremony is being chaired by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Buchanan and Mr. and Mrs. David Fitts of Tuscaloosa. The annual black-tie event on the campus of Shelton State Community College begins at 6:30 p.m. with a cocktail party and silent auction. At 8:00 p.m. the awards ceremony with singers, dancers and video presentations takes place in the Bean-Brown Theatre. Immediately following the awards, a dinner dance is held in the atrium of the campus.

Tickets for the event begin at \$200 per couple with a portion of the cost being tax-deductible. Tickets for the March 13 event may be purchased by calling the Theatre Tuscaloosa box office at 205-391-2277.



# Two Shelton students named to All—Alabama Academic team



Wilfred Mbah Njah

Two students from Shelton State Community College have been named to the All-Alabama Academic Team by the Alabama College System. Wilfred Mbah Njah, a native of Cameroon, now living in Northport, Ala. with his family and Jessica Christian, also of Northport, were nominated by a Phi Theta Kappa, the campus academic honorary society.

Njah completed high school in his native Cameroon and intends to become a medical doctor. His time at Shelton State has a very busy one serving as a volunteer math and chemistry tutor for the EDGE program for 15 hours each week while carrying full academic loads. He is a member of Circle K Leadership Association and Phi Theta Kappa and participates in numerous fundraising activities. He is also listed in Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Njah comes from a family of eight and attends Northport Church of God where he is involved in a variety of activities.

Jessica Christian plans to continue her education pursuing a career in architecture after she leaves Shelton State. Serving as vice president of Phi Theta Kappa, Christian has been active in the Shelton State Singers, an EDGE tutor and performs with "Bach to Rock." She is listed in Who's Who Among Students in

American Junior Colleges and was a member of the 2003 Shelton State homecoming court.

Active in Northport First United Methodist Church, Christian has participated in group volunteer workcamps since 1998.

Njah and Christian will be recognized by the Alabama College System in April. They are also competing for a place on the All-USA Academic Team for community colleges. This competition is sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, the American Association of Community Colleges and *USA Today*. The program recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in community, technical and junior colleges.

"I am delighted that two such fine students have been nominated to represent Shelton State Community College in this prestigious group,"



Jessica Christian

said Rick Rogers, president. "Their contributions to their school and their community have been remarkable and deserve recognition," he concluded.

The first, second and third team members of 2004 All-USA Academic Teams will be announced in April. For more information on these competitions and awards, please contact Diane Layton, Acting Dean of Students at 205/391-2230 or via email at dlayton@sheltonstate.edu.

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